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CHAPTER VIII--PUBLIC WORKS, ELECTRICAL AND ROAD TRANSPORT DEPARTMENTS.

Public Works.

912. A Special Water Supply Division was sanctioned with effect from 15th November 1954. This Division was formed mainly to implement the schemes of improving the water supply of Bangalore and Mysore Cities and continued to be under the direct control of the Superintending Engineer, Sanitary Circle, Bangalore.

913. No. I, Special Sub-Division at Chamarajasagar was formed on 4th January 1954 and was attached to the Water Supply Division, Bangalore, till the formation of the Special Water Supply Division.

914. A Second Special Sub-Division for Chamarajasagar Development Works, Thippagondanahally, was sanctioned on 2nd September 1954.

915. In addition to the four permanent Sub-Divisions there is a special Sub-Division (temporary), which is in charge of the works of laying feeder distributing mains to Jayanagar Extension, 15" main from Mount Joy to Byrasandra Hillock and 24" main from Kethamaranahally to Mount Joy and also some other works of the Trust Board, Bangalore.

916. Government sanctioned the creation of three Project Sub-Divisions, for a period of three years in the first instance on 19th February 1954 to work under the direct control of the Superintending Engineers of the three regular Circles and attached to the Division at the Circle Headquarters in each case, *viz.*, Bangalore, Mysore and Shimoga.

917. The final grant for the year under all heads amounted to Rs. 7,30,63,601, against which an outlay of Rs. 6,68,85,435 was incurred, including the expenditure on contribution works, District Board works, etc.

Amelioration of Schedule Classes and Schedule Tribes.

918. In March 1953 Government sanctioned a scheme of amelioration of Schedule Tribes at (1) Penjalli, Heggaddevanakote Taluk, (2) Maddur, Gundlupet Taluk and (3) at Budipadaga, Chamarajanagar Taluk, works connected

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with items 1 and 2 were attached to Mysore and Nanjangud Divisions respectively, while item 3 was executed by the Mysore District Board. The Colony at Penjalli was inaugurated by the Minister for Public Health and Local Self-Government during the year. This scheme provided a Colony consisting of residential quarters, school and other amenities to the Tribal people. Proposals for constructing further 15 quarters at the place were under consideration.

Land Colonisation Scheme of Ex-Servicemen.

919. A scheme in connection with rehabilitation of Ex-servicemen was sanctioned by Government. This scheme includes layout of roads, providing schools and other amenities and 56 settlers' quarters and improving the capacity of Devikere Tank.

Upliftment of Depressed Classes.

920. In connection with Harijan Welfare Scheme, the construction of Harijan Students' Hostels at Nanjangud and Mysore was taken up during the year.

Malaria Health Training Centre Buildings at Mandya.

921. Government sanctioned a scheme of construction of Malaria Health Training Centre buildings at Mandya in March 1952 at an estimated cost of Rs. 2·53 lakhs. The expenditure incurred to the end of March 1955 was Rs. 80,207.

Cement concreting of roads.

922. The final grant for the year 1954-55 for cement concreting of roads was Rs. 24,34,125 against which an outlay of Rs. 24,23,234 was incurred. A length of 48 miles and one furlong was cement-concreted.

Asphalting of roads.

923. The final grant for the year 1954-55 under this head was Rs. 25,17,900 against which an outlay of Rs. 26,20,412 was booked during the year. A length of 56 miles and 6 furlongs was asphalted during the year.

Construction of new bridges.

924. Nine bridges on the Central road fund programme were in progress during the year.

925. Government sanctioned a programme of Rs. 7·5 lakhs for works connected with the formation of roads and bridges in Malnad parts.

Water Supply and Drainage Schemes.

926. In December 1952, Government accorded approval to take up 67 Municipal Water Supply Schemes in the State in the first instance and subsequently approved 12 more schemes to be taken up under "50·00 lakhs-Loans". An equal amount of Rs. 50·00 lakhs was provided in the budget during the year 1953-54 and during the year 1954-55, a grant of Rs. 30·00 lakhs was sanctioned.

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927. Out of 79 schemes, estimates for 49 schemes have been sanctioned technically and estimates for 14 schemes were under several stages of progress. The outlay booked against them was Rs. 40,30,176.

Drainage Schemes.

928. Out of 23 drainage works contemplated to be taken up, 16 works were in progress during the year and the outlay booked to end of March 1955 was Rs. 12,90,695.

Bangalore Water Supply.

929. Bangalore with its salubrious climate and central situation had gained importance in South India. But with the advent of independence and the retrocession of the Civil Area, it has become one of the most important Cities in India. The rapid development of Industries, the establishment of a number of factories of national importance such as the Hindustan Aircraft, the Indian Telephone Industries, the Machine Tools Factory, etc., and the location of several important national institutions, etc., have contributed to the remarkable growth of the City in recent years. An estimate for Rs. 39·29 lakhs was sanctioned by Government in July 1953 and permission has been accorded to commence the works and purchase the essential machinery. The estimate as per present rates is expected to cost Rs. 68·5 lakhs. The total number of house connections in the City has risen to 22,000 at the end of the year of which about 9,000 have been metered. The policy of universal metering of all water connections was finalised.

930. The revenue collected during the year was Rs. 26,37,466 (Rs. 23,10,551).

Architectural Section.

931. The Office of the Government Architect and Town Planning Officer has been working as an integral part of and one of the units of the Office of the Chief Engineer of Mysore.

932. Particular mention must be made of the design of "VIDHANA SOUDHA" (Houses of Legislature) under construction in the grounds of the new Residency, opposite the Old Public Offices, Bangalore. The building has been designed to provide two spacious halls for conducting the deliberations of the Legislative Assembly and the Legislative Council. In addition, it will accommodate the Chambers of the Ministers, the Offices of the Secretariat, National Archives, the State Huzur Treasury, a Banquet

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Hall and a number of Offices which are at present located in rented buildings scattered all over Bangalore.

933. When completed "VIDHANA SOUDHA" will be the most magnificent edifice in granite, monumental and grand in appearance, massive and imposing in stature, consistent with the importance and spirit of the present epoch.

934. Another building of importance that needs special mention is the Accountant General's Office in Bangalore, the construction of which is nearing completion.

The Five-Year Plan.

935. The Five-Year Plan consists of Major Irrigation and Power Projects, Minor Irrigation Works under Agriculture and Transport. The activities of the Public Works Department at first envisaged during the plan period was Rs. 1,260·40 lakhs, and this was later expanded to Rs. 1,885·00 lakhs consequent on the addition of Bellary District to the Mysore State and the need for rapidly executing the Bhadra Reservoir and Nugu Reservoir Projects with Central Aid.

Irrigation and Power.

936. Thirty-five Major Works were classified under Irrigation and Power including the Major Projects of Bhadra Reservoir, Tunga Anicut and Nugu Reservoir. The original target of expenditure for the first five years in respect of these was Rs. 716·00 lakhs. This has since been revised to Rs. 1,159·00 lakhs mainly on account of the need for rapidly pushing through the Bhadra and Nugu Reservoirs.

937. The year 1955-56 is the last of the First Five-Year Plan.

National Highways.

938. The Second Five-Year Plan for National Highways for Rs. 175·00 lakhs is under the approval of the Government of India.

939. The Grow More Food Scheme comes under the Five-Year Plan and is classed under Agriculture.

940. The expenditure under Restoration of Tanks reached a record figure of Rs. 17,14,555.

Tunga-Bhadra Project.

941. The Tunga Bhadra Dam is constructed across the river Tunga Bhadra near Mallapuram in Hospet Taluk. The work was started in 1945.

942. With the creation of the Andhra State and the merger of the seven taluks of Bellary in Mysore State with effect from 1st October 1953, the Dam and Reservoir lie

entirely in Mysore and Hyderabad States. The low level canal taking off from the Right Bank of the Dam Irrigates large extents of lands in the Mysore and Andhra States.

943. In order that the further progress on the Dam may continue without interruption, the Government of India created the "Tungabhadra Board" consisting of the Chief Engineers for Irrigation and Electricity of each State, *i.e.*, Mysore, Andhra and Hyderabad with a Government of India Chief Engineer as Chairman and a Secretary of the status of a Superintending Engineer. This Board came into being from 1st October 1953. It was reconstituted with effect from 15th March 1955, with Sir Gokhale, I.C.S. (Retd.), as Chairman and with a smaller one membership, the Headquarters located at the dam site. The Board now exercises the powers of a Government of a Part A State.

944. The total expenditure to the end of September 1953 against the sanctioned estimate of Rs. 21·80 crores for the irrigation side is Rs. 16·65 crores on the Mysore and Andhra side. The expenditure to end of March 1954 is Rs. 17·27 crores. The expenditure incurred during the year is Rs. 58,35,287. Action is being taken to prepare the lands over an extent of 30,000 acres for irrigation in the Mysore side.

945. The Mysore Engineering Research Station which was reorganised with a view to broaden the scope of its activities continued to function as the Research Wing of the Public Works Department directly under the control of the Chief Engineer.

The Mysore Engineering Research Station, Krishnarajasagar.

(ii) Major Irrigation Works.

946. The important irrigation works under the jurisdiction of the Special Chief Engineer are :—(1) Bhadra Reservoir Project, (2) Thunga Anicut Works, (3) Nugu Reservoir Works, (4) Ambligola Project, and (5) Development of irrigation under Tungabhadra Project in Mysore area.

947. The total grant for the year for the Bhadra Reservoir and Thunga Anicut for the year was Rs. 230·00 lakhs against which the total outlay was Rs. 242,94,876. In the Nugu Reservoir Division against a grant of